UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/49/L.40
23 November 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 88 (b)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Algeria*: draft resolution

Food and agricultural development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance and continued validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 1/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 2/ the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 3/ the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 4/ the

---

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

1/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

2/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

3/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

4/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

Cartagena Commitment, 5/ Agenda 21, 6/ and the various consensus agreements and conventions that were adopted in the context of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Reaffirming also its resolutions 45/207 of 21 December 1990, 47/149 of 18 December 1992 and 47/193 of 22 December 1992,

Recognizing that freshwater resources are a scarce commodity in a growing number of countries and that there is a need to increase food production in developing countries, in part through the improved use of irrigation and water resource management suitable for agricultural production,

Recognizing the work undertaken by the Commission on Sustainable Development in the area of freshwater resources,

Stressing with concern that hunger and malnutrition have been increasing in many countries, particularly in Africa,

Stressing the need to provide the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that operate in the areas of food and agriculture with increased adequate resources in order that they may implement their mandates,

Recognizing the importance of stimulating food production and productivity in developing countries through appropriate policies, taking fully into account Agenda 21, and by ensuring a sustainable economic environment, including a more open trading system, for the development of a viable agricultural sector and improved food security, and in that context stressing the importance of the urgent and full implementation of the agreements contained in the Final Act embodying the results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations,

1. Takes note with interest of the report of the Secretary-General on food production, including agro-industrial products, international markets for agricultural and tropical products and global food security, 7/

2. Notes with concern that in the face of the enormous challenges in the area of agricultural development, the resource allocation for the development of food and agriculture in developing countries has continued to decline;

5/ TD/364, part one, sect. A, "A New Partnership for Development: The Cartagena Commitment", adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 8 to 25 February 1992.

6/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

7/ A/49/438.

3. Urges the international community to place food and agricultural development high on the development agenda and to mobilize resources at the national, bilateral and multilateral levels in support of sustainable productive agriculture and food security in developing countries;

4. Notes with satisfaction the individual and collaborative efforts of the food and agriculture bodies based in Rome, namely the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food Programme, and welcomes in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization's special programme on food production or food security in low-income food-deficit countries;

5. Notes that the agreements reached in the context of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round will have an important impact on the development of food production, agro-industrial products and international markets for agricultural and tropical products, as well as on global food security;

6. Calls on donor countries to support the Food and Agriculture Organization's special programme on the Uruguay Round decision on measures concerning the possible negative effects of the reform programme on least developed and net food-importing developing countries;

7. Urges the international community to give special attention to the promotion and revitalization of economic growth and development in developing countries, through, inter alia, a more diversified food and agricultural sector, focusing in particular on agro-industrial activities in developing countries;

8. Invites the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as the multilateral financial institutions working in the field of food and agriculture, to support developing country efforts in the development of small- and medium-sized agro-industries and in the improvement of processing, transportation, distribution and marketing modalities of their food and other agricultural products;

9. Urges all countries, particularly developed countries, to strengthen their efforts to work towards a more equitable international economic environment, in particular regarding a fairer, more open and more viable agricultural trading system that will stimulate food production and productivity in developing countries;

10. Welcomes the successful conclusion of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, 8/ hopes that the Convention will attract the support of the international community towards solving the important problem confronting Africa in that area, and in that regard supports the contribution made by, inter alia, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development to deal with the problem of land degradation in Africa, and invites those organizations to consider extending their programmes to other affected regions;

8/ A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

11. Recommends to the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as the multilateral financial institutions, in close cooperation with the countries concerned, that they carry out jointly an in-depth assessment of global freshwater resources and their use by each country to identify problems that either are critical at present or will be critical in the near future, and that they recommend strategies and policies to avoid a global freshwater crisis;

12. Requests the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as the multilateral financial institutions, to assist interested developing countries in the formulation and implementation of national water policies and strategies;

13. Invites Governments, international organizations and, as appropriate, scientific-technical organizations to promote sustainable water use for food production and rural development by improving the efficiency of current water use for irrigation in developing countries, particularly at the village level;

14. Requests relevant regional and international organizations to assist the cooperative efforts of developing countries in the area of sustainable and integrated water management aimed at augmenting water resources in order to meet the increased demand for those resources;

15. Welcomes the pledges that have been made by Member States to the Fourth Replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and in that context invites countries that have not yet done so to announce their pledges as soon as possible, taking into account the decisions taken by the Fund's Special Committee on Resource Requirements and Related Governance Issues;

16. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, focusing in particular on the use of freshwater resources, as well as on the effects of the results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations on food production, including agro-industrial products and global food security in developing countries;

17. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the sub-item entitled "Food and agricultural development" under the item entitled "Sustainable Development and International Economic Cooperation: Food and Agricultural Development".